

<b>CARL HARBERT</b> <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	<b>DAVID RUTLEDGE</b> <i>Mayor</i>	<b>DANNY HARRINGTON</b> <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
<b>MIKE REED</b> <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		<b>TERRI GAUTHIER</b> <i>Council Member, Place 5</i>
<b>TAMMI FISETTE</b> <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		<b>LUCY FIELDS</b> <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 6</i>

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**

**August 18, 2020**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, via telephone conference with the Mayor at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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Mayor Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**IDENTIFICATION OF A QUORUM (ROLL CALL)**

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**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor David Rutledge  
Council Member Carl Harbert  
Council Member Mike Reed  
Council Member Tammi Fisette  
Council Member Danny Harrington  
Council Member Terri Gauthier  
Mayor Pro-Tem Lucy Fields

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:** None.

The City Staff present but was not part of the roll call is as follows:

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Jerry D. Jones  
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell  
City Attorney Paul Fukuda  
Finance Director Karen Morgan  
Police Captain Tod McDowell  
Police Chief Paul Davis

**2. INVOCATION**

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Invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda. At the conclusion of the invocation, Mayor Rutledge thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the agenda excluding Item 4b, seconded by Council Member Reed.

With no other corrections, additions, or deletions, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **Votes were orally given as follows:**

##### **Ayes:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Gauthier	Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

### **4. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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**(a) City Council to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed 2020-2021 Budget for the City of Bridge City, Texas via telephone conference**

***“This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$25,840, which is an 1.26% increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$22,256.”***

After reading Agenda Item 4(a) Mayor Rutledge opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Mayor Rutledge asked twice if there were any questions or comments on this budget.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m

**(b) City Council to hear and consider public comments regarding a possible CDBG-MIT application to the Texas General Land Office via telephone conference**

Item 4b was deleted from the agenda in Item 3.

**5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM:**

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**(a) City Manager Report**

**City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report:**

1. 408 Water Well – the motor went out and it is about 400’ down underground. A company came in and pulled the casing and the motor, replaced it. It was back in operation by Saturday. One of the main reason City Staff is trying to drill a new well is because when that motor went out, and it was either struck by lightening or a power surge that actually shorted it out, the City only had one working well. It was enough to sustain the amount of water that we have to have. This is not something the City wants happening on a regular basis and this is why we are trying to get the well drilled at Sunnyside as soon as possible. There was no loss of water, the only thing that would have been noticeable is a little less water pressure.
2. Storm boxes – are starting next Monday.
3. Ditch project – will start next week.
4. Fire plugs – will have pre-construction meeting and will start in the next week or so.
5. Council Meeting – move from the September 1 to September 15. The reason we would like to move the meeting to September 15 is to give the citizens more time to look at the tax rate and know what the City is proposing.

**(b) City Council Report**

**Council Member Carl Harbert** said he was asked why the City has not opened up since the schools have, we can wear the mask and do social distancing. He said this comes from the citizens. Mayor Rutledge said he hoped that Council Member Harbert gave the citizens the same answer as he has been giving him. The City is not ready to open yet, we do not have all the protective measures in place. He said the City does not want to open up and risk having to close the whole City down again.

**Council Member Mike Reed**

None.

**Council Member Tammi Fisette** asked if the Elsie Project has been completed, as she was asked by a citizen.

Mr. Jones said as far as he knew it had, he would check with Mr. Lund, but he thinks the project has been closed out.

Council Member Fisette said the concerns that was brought to her attention was Arthur Street, the sinking at the 4-way stop sign, and it has been discussed before and it was being taken care of as part of the Elsie Project. Also, the ditch that runs from Arthur back behind Alton over to Bernice was discussed that it would be cleaned out, but it has not happened yet.

Mr. Jones said those were part of the project the City was doing, he will check to see if they are completed and if not then he will have them done.

**Council Member Danny Harrington**

None.

**Council Member Terri Gauthier** said she would like to share some information. She said she had a conversation with the Director of the Regional Planning Commission and there was a couple of things that came out during the conversation she thought would be good information for the City Council. The first thing is the Household Hazardous Waste Event that would be good for Bridge City, of course, it was scheduled for May but was cancelled. It is rescheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2020, at the Bridge City Intermediate School. She said she wanted the City Council to know this was happening in Bridge City in case anyone knew of citizens wanting to get rid of hazardous waste or old tires. The second thing mentioned was to let everyone know and be aware of instead of calling 9-1-1 and to make sure the citizens know they can call 2-1-1 for local resources. Citizens can call for any kind of assistance they may need, and anything they may need if they have been impacted by COVID-19. The Director of Regional Planning said that last year in July, their onsite operators answered 1,100 calls and this July, which is last month, they answered a total of 3,300 calls. They are trying to make people aware of this service.

Mayor Rutledge asked Council Member Gauthier if she had flyers for the Hazardous Waste Event and the 2-1-1 information.

Council Member Gauthier said she did not, but when she receives them she will get the flyers to all Council Members and she will post on social media.

Mayor Rutledge said the City Staff will post it on the website also.

Council Member Harbert said he did not get the date and asked what it was.

Mayor Rutledge said it was October 24, 2020.

Council Member Fisetta asked if she had times, yet.

Council Member Gauthier said times were not mentioned, but when she gets the flyers at the next meeting, she should have all the information.

Council Member Fisetta said also, the 2-1-1 is to call if people need assistance for a hurricane evacuation.

Council Member Gauthier said yes, absolutely and she said that is why they are reinforcing it now.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Lucy Fields** said just one last reminder, the enumerators are out in the field and knocking on doors. She said they have until September 30, 2020, to get a head count. She said they are encouraging everyone to answer the census. She also said the City needs the numbers. Mayor Rutledge said since we have not had any calls, then that is going fairly smoothly.

Mayor Pro-Tem Fields said she heard from a relative in Mauriceville that some people are very nice and some people are very rude. She said she is hoping Bridge City people will be very congenial to the enumerators.

Mayor Rutledge said that may be a good question to ask if she had a chance.

**(c) City Staff Report**

**City Attorney Paul Fukuda**

None.

**Miscellaneous City Staff:**

None.

**(d) Mayor**

**Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:**

None.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**7. ORDINANCE**

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2020-06 amending Ordinance No. 91-11 and Exhibit "A" of Ordinance No. 91-11, Purchasing Policy for the City of Bridge City, Texas**

Mr. Fukuda read the caption of Ordinance No. 2020-06, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Council Member Reed made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-06 amending Ordinance No. 91-11 and Exhibit "A" of Ordinance No. 91-11, Purchasing Policy, seconded by Council Member Fisette.

Mr. Jones told City Council the Ordinance would update the Purchasing Policy. Council Member Fisette inquired what the specific changes were made to the Purchasing Policy.

After discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

**Ayes:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Gauthier	Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**8. RESOLUTIONS**

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2020-15(R) adopting the proposed 2020-2021 Budget for the City of Bridge City, Texas**

Mr. Fukuda read the entirety of Resolution No. 2020-15(R), adopting the proposed budget.

Council Member Harrington made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-15(R) adopting the proposed 2020-2021 Budget, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

With no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Fields called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

**Ayes:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Gauthier	Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION**

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the following minutes:  
July 30, 2020 City Council Special Meeting Minutes  
August 4, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the July 30, 2020 City Council Special Meeting Minutes and August 4, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fields.

Council Member Fisette made a correction on the July 30, 2020 City Council Special Meeting of the minutes which showed her voting and also her being absent.

With no other corrections, additions, or deletions, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

**Ayes:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
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Mayor Pro-Tem Fields        Yes  
Council Member Harbert     Yes  
Council Member Reed        Yes  
Council Member Fisette     Yes  
Council Member Harrington Yes  
Council Member Gauthier    Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

***(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the City Bills for the month of July 2020***

Mayor Pro-Tem Fields made a motion to approve the City Bills for the month of July 2020, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

Council Harbert asked about the culverts, “No Wake Buoys” and signs for the “No Wake Buoys”. Council Fisette asked about the boxes for Republic Services, drainage on Center Street, the admin cost for Gary Traylor & Associates and the CARES grant for the drive thru on the front of City Hall.

After discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

**Ayes:**

Mayor Rutledge                Yes  
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields        Yes  
Council Member Harbert     Yes  
Council Member Reed        Yes  
Council Member Fisette     Yes  
Council Member Harrington Yes  
Council Member Gauthier    Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

***(c) Consideration and possible action to extend the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster***

Council Member Reed made a motion to extend the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster, seconded by Council Member Fisette.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Gauthier	Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**9. ADJOURN**

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Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m., seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fields.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Votes were orally given as follows:**

Mayor Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Fields	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Gauthier	Yes

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

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David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary